

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 9-12 have been examined. The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2 and 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. §101 as allegedly claiming the “same invention” as claims 3, 4 and 10-12 of U.S. Patent No. 6,791,715 (parent to present Application). Also, the Examiner has indicated that claim 9 is allowable.

By this Amendment, Applicant cancels claims 10-12. Thus, the rejection of such claims is now moot.

Regarding claim 1, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection as follows.

Claim 1 recites,

“wherein said halftone processing section prepares the image reproduction data to be used for changing an angle of at least one color screen of a plurality of color screens to substantially an angle related to an irrational tangent.” (emphasis added)

On the other hand, claim 3 of U.S. Patent No. 6,791,715 recites,

“wherein said halftone processing section prepares the image reproduction data to be used for making distances among centroids of the halftone spots of the plurality of colors substantially equal.” (emphasis added)

At least based on the above underlined recitations, Applicant submits that the claims do not recite the “same invention.” On October 29, 2007, the undersigned conducted an Interview with the Examiner to discuss the rejection of claim 1. During the Interview, the Examiner

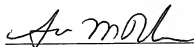
Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.111
U.S. Application No.: 10/821,946

acknowledged that claim 1 of the present Application does not recite the same invention as claim 3 of U.S. Patent No. 6,791,715. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of claim 1. Since claim 2 is dependent upon claim 1, Applicant submits that the rejection of claim 2 is likewise moot.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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